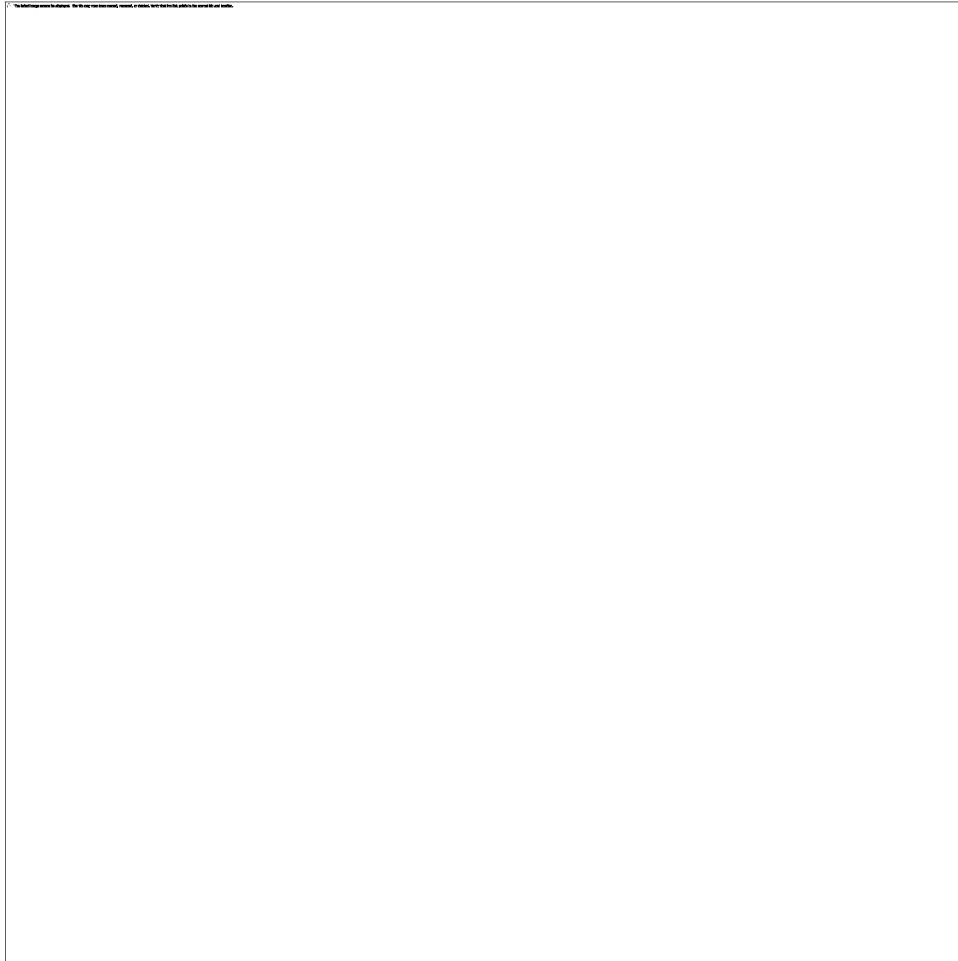


Message

---

**From:** VB/I-70 CAG (COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP ) [vbi170cag@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** 8/16/2019 7:35:28 PM  
**To:** Wharton, Steve [Wharton.Steve@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** WE NEED YOU! August VB/I-70 CAG Meeting/ BE INFORMED 😊

WE NEED YOU! August VB/I-70 CAG Meeting/ BE INFORMED 😊



Share



Tweet



Forward

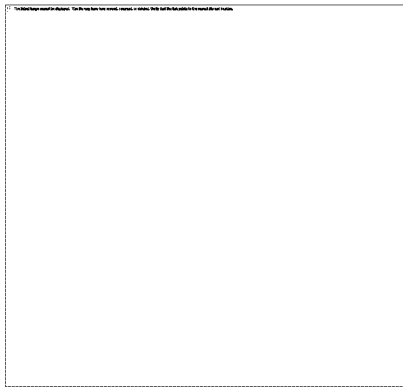
( See 9 items below)

## 1. JOIN US AT THE AUGUST 20, 2019 CAG MEETING

*Let your voice be heard.*

**Time:** August 20, 2019, 5:30 - 7:00 PM

**Place:** Johnson Recreation Center, 4809 Race St. 80216



Chuck Norris, CAG Volunteer Technical Expert

### **Agenda:**

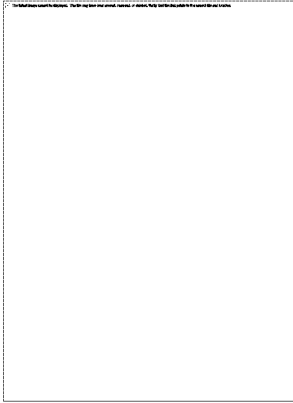
- Report: Operable Unit 2 ( Chuck Norris, Geologist)
  - Consider: CAG Proposed Advisory Resolution 2019-01
  
  - Update: Proposed Delisting OU1
  - Update: EPA Response to Comments on Delisting
  
  - Information: Lead Risk in VB/I-70
  - Speaker: Mary Hernandez
- 

*Please email if you would like to add agenda items.*

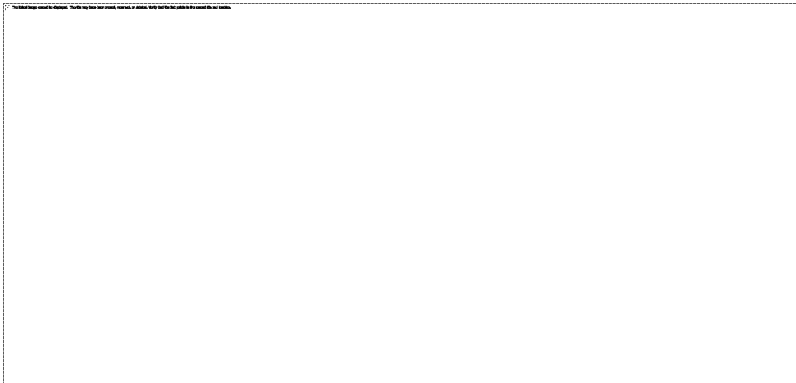
*If your item does not relate directly to the VB/I-70 Superfund Site, it will be presented after the conclusion of the CAG meeting, as time permits.*

---

## 2. Disaster at Globeville Landing Outfall/OU2 ?



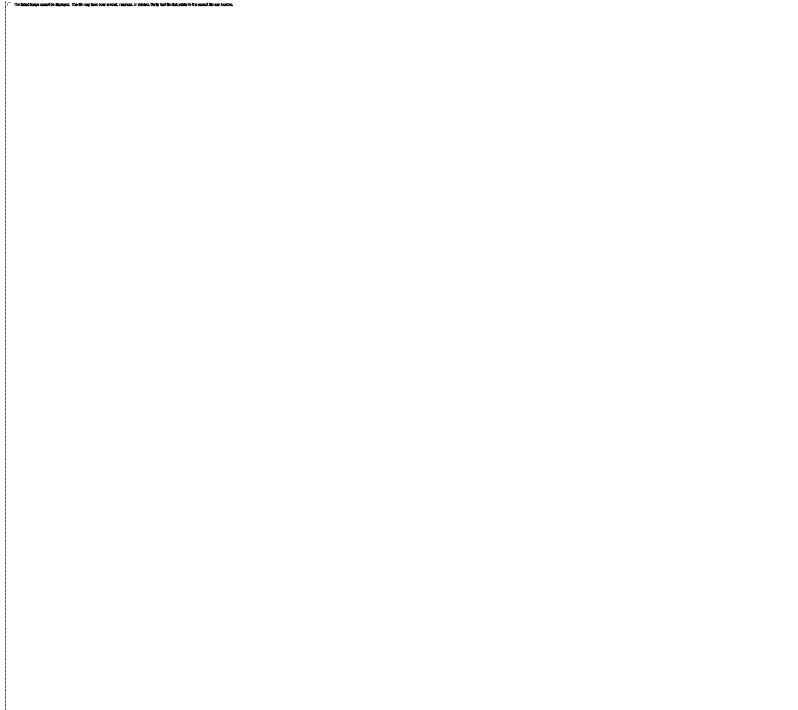
Adrian Brown, CAG Volunteer Technical Expert



GLO IN OU2: "THE PERFECT STORM" with Adrian Brown

---

## 3. Background of the Vasquez B./ I-70 Superfund Site



*EPA Vasquez Bl./I-70 Superfund Site*

## **What is the Vasquez Bl. /I-70 Superfund Site?**

"The Vasquez Boulevard & Interstate 70 (VB/I-70) Superfund site is located in north Denver, Colorado. The site includes two commercial/industrial areas as well as residential properties in all or part of the following neighborhoods: Cole, Clayton, Swansea, Elyria, southwest Globeville and northern Curtis Park. Historically, the area was a major smelting center for the Rocky Mountain West. Two smelters – Omaha & Grant and Argo– operated within the site boundaries for varying lengths of time, beginning as early as the 1870s, refining gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc.

As a result, heavy metals were deposited in area soils at levels that, in some cases, potentially posed a health risk to people living there. Groundwater was also impacted at the former smelter locations. In January 1999, EPA listed the VB/I-70 site on the EPA National Priorities List. Sites on the National Priorities List are commonly referred to as Superfund sites because they are eligible for Superfund resources, environmental investigation and cleanup processes, and public participation opportunities.

EPA is the lead agency for Superfund activities at the VB/I-70 Superfund site, working cooperatively with the support agency, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. EPA divided the VB/I-70 Superfund Site into three operable units to better manage the project:

- **Operable Unit 1 (OU1)** includes residential soils in more than 4,500 yards in all or part of six neighborhoods: Cole, Clayton, Swansea, Elyria, southwest Globeville and a small section of northern Curtis Park. The 2003 VB/I-70 Record of Decision defines OU1 as residential yards within the study area with levels of lead or arsenic in soil that present an unacceptable risk to human health. EPA's highest priority at the VB/I-70 Site was OU1 because there was the highest potential for people to be exposed to metals.
  - **Operable Unit 2 (OU2)** includes the location of the former Omaha & Grant Smelter, which is today the location of the Denver Coliseum and surrounding businesses. The majority of the OU2 area is paved and has been extensively redeveloped since the smelter stopped operating. Contamination is likely limited to subsurface and groundwater impacts. The City and County of Denver is a landowner and the responsible party cleaning up this operable unit.
  - **Operable Unit 3 (OU3)** includes the location of the former Argo Smelter, which is today the commercial area adjacent to and northwest of the Interstate 70 and Interstate 25 interchange."...EPA
- 

## 4. Useful Links

- [Link to EPA Vasquez Bl/ I-70 Superfund Site](#)
- [Toxics Site](#)
- [EPA Lead Site Specific Consultation for Deletions](#)
- [Chuck Norris Presentation: 7/2018:](#)

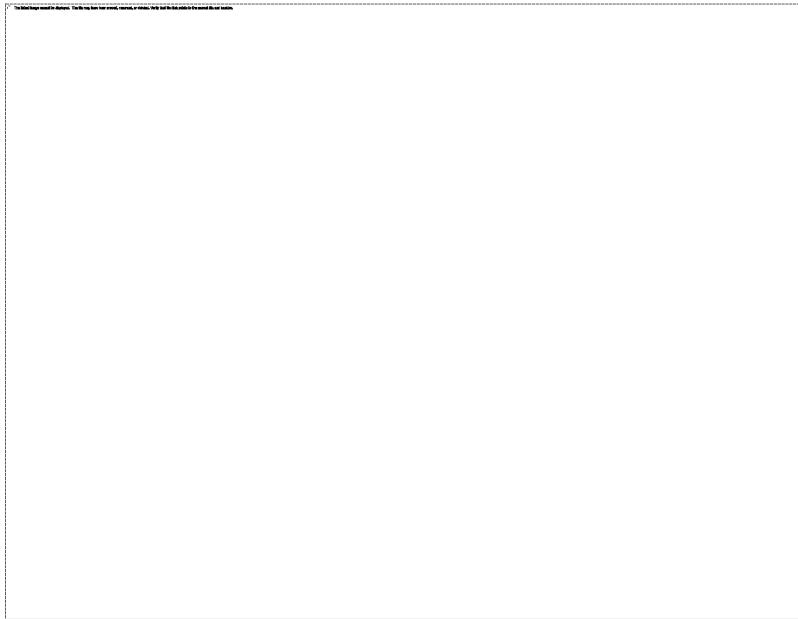
*Mr. Norris' assessment of EPA Remediation in OU1.*

*Was remediation based on the wrong theory of source of pollution?*

- [Links to EPA Operable Unit 1 Documents and Data](#)
  - [2019 OU1 Deletion Partial Deletion Documents](#)
  - [Expert Comments: Chuck Norris RE: Delisting of OU1](#)
  - [EarthJustice comments to EPA RE: Delisting of OU1](#)
  - [Bridget Walsh comments to EPA RE: Delisting of OU1](#)
  - [Hazardous Materials Report CDOT 2008](#)
-

## 5. CAG Members Celebrate

### Two Years of Continuous Monthly Meetings



*Some of the CAG members and guests at May 21, celebration.*

### **CAG Begins**

It seems like a long time ago. In the Fall of 2016, a few community members met with representatives of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment ( CDPHE) and the City and County of Denver (CCD) to express concerns about the Vasquez Bl. /I-70 Superfund Site (Site) and the need for a congressionally mandated Community Advisory Group.

The first official meeting of the CAG was in March, 2017.

CAG Bylaws were adopted and an independent CAG Administrator, Kimberly Morse, was elected in September, 2017.

### **Volunteer Expert's Opinion Raised Serious Questions**

- The CAG's volunteer technical advisor, Chuck Norris, produced a major statement to the CAG containing his questions and concerns regarding

EPA's remediation (clean up) in Operable Unit 1 (OU1). OU1 included over 4500 residences located in the Site. It did not include commercial properties and streets such as 39th Avenue where Denver is building an open drainage ditch they are using as a park.

- It seems that the EPA based their clean up remedy on the theory that the arsenic and lead pollution found in the neighborhoods, came from the air from smokestacks from the historic smelting activity in the area.

Mr. Norris points out that EPA's own scientists found that there was no evidence or basis to support the theory that the pollution in OU1 came mainly from the air.

- Mr. Norris offers an alternative theory that a major portion of the pollution could have come from infill and dumping as the historic neighborhood was developed. If his extensive and detailed research proves accurate, residents could still be exposed to pollution from deep down in the soil.

Mr. Norris continues his research on behalf of the CAG.

- Mr. Adrian Brown, Professional Engineer, has also offered his extensive experience to inform the CAG, EPA, Denver and CDPHE about concerns and reservations about pollution and construction in Operable Unit 2.

OU2 includes the Globeville Landing Outfall (GLO).

### **Thank You**

Mr. Brown and Mr. Norris have donated hundreds of hours to inform the CAG and agencies on highly technical aspects of work being conducted or overseen by Denver, EPA and CDPHE and their contractors at the Site. The CAG is eternally grateful to them for their invaluable assistance.

### **CAG Resolutions**

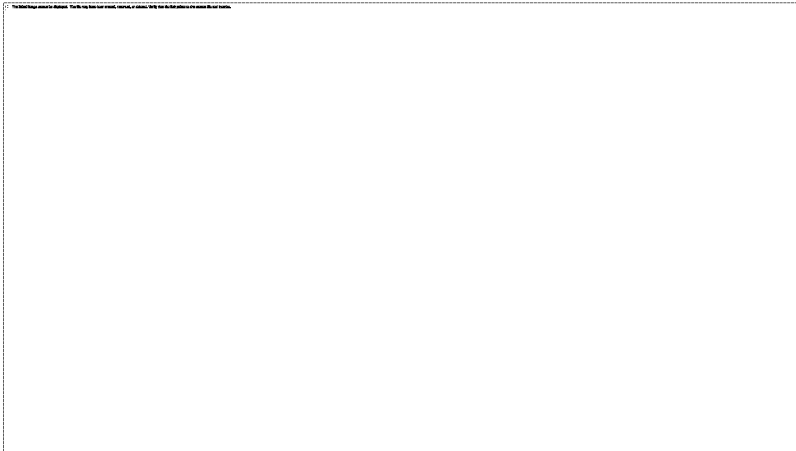
Based on our experts input and advice, the CAG produced several Advisory Resolution to the EPA and to CDPHE:

R1, R2, R3, R4,R5.

The EPA, Denver and CDPHE have not responded in writing to the CAG's input.

---

## **6. Neighbors Speak Out at August 20, CAG Meeting**



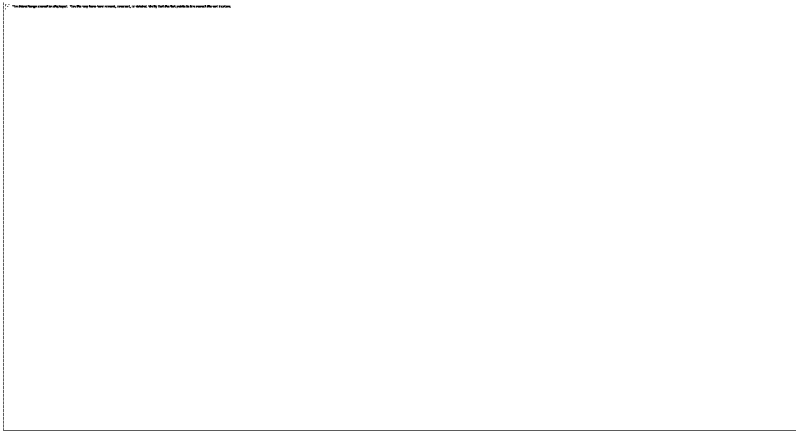
Join us on August 20, and meet Mary Hernandez whose family lived in the Site. Mary will share details about the devastating health issues that have plagued her family for generations.

---

## **7. WHAT CAN LEAD DO TO OUR CHILDREN??**

---





Click on the image above for short ,entertaining video.

### **LEAD & ARSENIC**

In the late 1990's lead and arsenic were named by the EPA as "contaminants of concern" in Operable Unit 1(OU1) in the VB/I-70 Superfund Site (Site) OU1 contained over 4500 homes.

Many community members asked EPA to evaluate the many other dangerous chemicals and heavy metals in the Site. The EPA refused.

### **SAFE LEVELS IN SOIL?**

At that time, EPA said that 400 parts per million in soil was a safe level for lead and 70 parts per million in soil was a safe level for arsenic. EPA tried to set the limit much higher but the community in the Site protested.

The "safe" levels that EPA sets vary from site to site and seem to be whatever the community will bear.

### **NO SAFE LEVEL OF LEAD IN CHILDREN**

1. EPA in 2001 decided that children are at risk if their blood levels of lead were higher than *10 micrograms per deciliter*.

2. EPA now says that children are at risk if their blood levels of lead are over *5 micrograms per deciliter*.

3. Science now recognizes that there is no safe level of lead in a child's body. World Health Organization on lead. (Spanish)  
Lead and Arsenic are Endocrine Disruptors. More information on Lead.

***Come to the CAG Meeting August 20***

What are the blood levels in our children today?

**Come to the CAG meeting on August 20 to learn more, share your experiences, ask questions and discuss next steps. A SoilSHOP?**

---

**8. ALL CAG MEETING ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

We encourage all to attend to learn about progress of work underway in the Site and about the health and safety risks of living or working in or around the Site. We need your input.

People who may have relevant experience or knowledge about superfund sites will be welcomed as are journalists, researchers, academics, government agency representatives and representatives of business who may be impacted by the Site.

Please feel free to contact us by email.

---

**9. MISSION STATEMENT OF THE VB/I-70 CAG**

*This Community Advisory Group (hereinafter, "CAG") is to provide a public forum for representatives of diverse community interests to present their needs and concerns regarding cleanup*

---

*activities at the I-70/Vasquez Blvd (hereinafter, "I-70/VB") Superfund site in north Denver, Colorado. This CAG shall be a mechanism for all interested and affected parties in the community and environs to have a voice and actively participate in the Superfund process. This CAG will advocate for and advance implementation of optimum environmental cleanup standards and monitoring, even in excess of required EPA standards. (Click [here](#) to see bylaws)*

---

*Copyright © 2019 VB/I-70 Community Advisory Group, All rights reserved.*

*You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.*

**Our mailing address is:**

VB/I-70 Community Advisory Group  
10th Avenue  
Denver, Co 80203

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

